



The County BEAT

Bringing Employees Answers Today

Volume 7

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SPOTLIGHT ON EMPLOYEES



Randall McGowen began working for the Sheriff's Department in February of 1995. He was promoted to investigator in 2000 and now works as the Sheriff's Department's Chief Investigator. He has a son age 30, daughter age 27, and granddaughter age 6.



Debbie Doster has 24 years of public education experience, she currently serves as Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction for grades 6-12. She was selected as West Tennessee Teacher of the Year in 1993. Debbie was recently selected as West Tennessee Supervisor of the Year.

Weakley County
Department of Finance
8319 Highway 22 Suite B
Dresden, TN 38225
Shawn Francisco,
Director of Finance

Health Screening Update



I would like to send out a big THANK YOU for your participation in the free health screenings. We had a total of 260 people screened. This is one step in fulfilling your Partnership Promise, with the second step being the completion of your health questionnaire. Don't worry if you or your spouse did not make it to the worksite health screenings, you can see your personal physician. Be sure your personal physician completes and faxes the Physician Screening Form to APS Healthcare. You can download it on the ParTners for Health website at www.partnersforhealthtn.gov, the Weakley County website in the downloads section at www.weakleycountyttn.gov or call the Department of Finance. Screenings are required to be completed and faxed to APS Healthcare at 877-797-6915 by June 30, 2011.

2010 Income Tax Reminders

Education Expense Deductions \$250.00

If you were an eligible educator in 2010, you can deduct on the Federal Income Tax Form 1040, line 23, up to \$250 of qualified expenses you paid in 2010. If you and your spouse are filing jointly and both of you were eligible educators, the maximum deduction is \$500. However, neither spouse can deduct more than \$250 of his or her qualified expenses. An eligible educator is a kindergarten through grade 12 teacher, instructor, counselor, or principal who worked in a school for at least 900 hours during a school year.

Qualified expenses include ordinary and necessary expenses paid in connection with books, supplies, equipment (including computer equipment, software, and services), and other materials used in the classroom. Qualified expenses do not include expenses for home schooling or for nonathletic supplies for courses in health or physical education.

Teacher Dues - Itemized Deduction \$441.00

Many Weakley County educators are members of the NEA, TEA and WCEA organizations through payroll deductions. Annual dues paid to those organizations are tax deductible as itemized deduction on Schedule A. As members of all three organizations, the total dues paid for the tax year 2010 are \$441.00.

Visit the county website at www.weakleycountyttn.gov

SPOTLIGHT ON OFFICIALS



Pat Scarbrough
County Clerk

Years active in Weakley County Clerk's Office?
15 1/2.

Occupation: Weakley County Clerk

The hardest thing I've ever done: I had two brothers die within seven months.

Three people (living or dead) I'd invite to dinner:
John F. Kennedy, Grace Kelly and Billy Graham.

A dream I have is to: Visit Ireland, the land of my ancestors.

The most adventurous thing I've ever done is:
Graduate from the city of Martin's Citizens Police Academy.

My favorite way to relax is: To read a book.

I'm most proud of: My family.

My favorite meal is: Sunday dinner with the family gathered around the table.

The last book I read was: A mystery novel.

My favorite movie is: "The Notebook"

My favorite music is: 60's music.

My hobby is: Reading.

10 Commandments of Human Relations

- 1. Speak to people.**
There is nothing as nice as a cheerful word of greeting.
- 2. Smile at people.**
It takes 72 muscles to frown, only 14 to smile.
- 3. Call people by name.**
The sweetest music to anyone's ears is the sound of his own name.
- 4. Be friendly and helpful.**
If you want friends, you must be one.
- 5. Be cordial.**
Speak and act as if everything you do is a joy to you.
- 6. Be genuinely interested in people.**
You can like almost everybody if you try.
- 7. Be generous with praise...**
and cautious with criticisms.
- 8. Be considerate with the feelings of others.**
There are usually three sides to a controversy: Yours, the other fellow's and the right side.
- 9. Be eager to lend a helping hand.**
Often it is appreciated more than you know.
- 10. Add to this:**
a good sense of humor, a huge dose of patience and a dash of humility. This combination will open many doors and the rewards will be enormous.

Spotlight on District 5

Matthew Scott Fortner was elected to the County Commission with term beginning September 1, 2010. He is the husband of 25 years to Angela Jolley Fortner. They also have three children, Matthew, Zachary and Nicholas and one granddaughter, Lily Beth Fortner.

Scott attended school in Martin and graduated from Westview High School in 1980. He then went on to attend UTM.

During the time he started college, Scott also began a career in retail by going to work for Wal-Mart stores. He spent almost 10 years in management in various stores



Scott Fortner

in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Alabama. Scott later joined OfficeMax stores and spent 12+ years in various management positions at store and corporate levels.

Scott remains active in church and community activities. He and his family are members of Central Baptist Church in Martin where he serves as a Deacon.

In recent years, Scott returned to UTM to finish his degree he had postponed earlier to begin his retail career. He graduated from UTM with a Bachelors of University Studies degree in 2005. He is retired from retail and spends his time occasionally substitute teaching in the Weakley County Schools. Commissioner Fortner resides at 202 Laura Street in Martin, TN 38237.

Questions and Answers

If any employee has questions they would like addressed in future newsletters, please forward them to franciscos@k12tn.net

Q: Does my spouse and children have to have a health screening and complete the health questionnaire?

A: Employee's spouse, if covered by Weakley County health insurance, must complete the health screening and questionnaire. Children are not required to have the health screening or complete the questionnaire.

Q: What will the health screening cost me?

A: The health screenings are free. Health screenings are classified as preventive care. There is no charge for preventive care services.

**PARTNERS
FOR HEALTH**

**CVS
CAREMARK**

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